

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed March 26, 2007, claims 1, 5-9, and 13-17 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 3,717,151 to Collett (hereinafter "Collett") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,814,713 to Aboul-Hosn (hereinafter "Aboul-Hosn"). Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collett and Aboul-Hosn in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,330,497 to Freitas et al. (hereinafter "Freitas et al."). Claims 11-12 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Colett and Aboul-Hosn in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,064,435 to Loeffler et al. (hereinafter "Loeffler et al."). Claims 18, 19, 20-24, 28-32 and 43 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collette and Aboul-Hosn in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,626,942 to Waldron (hereinafter "Waldron"). Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collett, Aboul-Hosn and Waldron in view of Freitas et al. Claims 26-27 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collett, Aboul-Hosn and Waldron in view Loeffler et al.

Applicant has amended the claims to more particularly define the present invention over the cited prior art. More particularly, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 19. The cited prior art fails to teach or suggest these features. Pursuant to a telephone interview between the Examiner and Attorney for Applicant, such claims are allowable over the cited prior art.

The dependent claims are patentable over the cited prior art for those reasons advanced

above with respect to independent claim 1 from which they respectively depend and for reciting additional features neither taught nor suggested by the cited prior art.

In light of all of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in order for allowance, and prompt allowance is earnestly requested. Should any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney of record so that the case may proceed expeditiously to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay P. Sbröllini". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jay" and last name "Sbröllini" clearly distinguishable.

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